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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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09/536,053

03/27/2000

Michael K. Just

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05/03/2007

VEDDER PRICE KAUFMAN & KAMMHOLZ  
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CHICAGO, IL 60601

EXAMINER

WYSZYNSKI, AUBREY H

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2134

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

05/03/2007

PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/536,053

Applicant(s)

JUST, MICHAEL K.

Examiner

Aubrey H. Wyszynski

Art Unit

2134

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 February 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 8, 10-15, 38 and 45 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7, 9, 17-26, 28-35, 37, 40-44 and 46-48 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 10-15, 38 and 45 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 27 March 2000 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                       | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                       |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114***

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 2/22/07 has been entered.
2. Claims 10-15, 38 and 45 are pending.
3. Claims 8, 16, 27, 36 and 39 are canceled.
4. Claims 1-7, 9, 17-26, 28-35, 37, 40-44 and 46-48 are allowed.

### ***Response to Arguments***

5. Applicant's arguments filed 2/22/07 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.
6. Regarding claims 38 and 45, Cooper et al discloses these features (see the directory "display" and "mnemonic tag" in Cooper et al--Page 9, first column, second and sixth paragraphs and column 10, first paragraph).. Additionally, the use of e-mail address that corresponds to an entity is well known in the art, therefore proper certificate of an entity association with an e-mail is also obvious. The claim also shows an intended use (A recitation directed to the manner in which a claimed apparatus is intended to be used does not distinguish the claimed apparatus from the prior art if prior

art has the capability to do so perform (See MPEP 2114 and Ex Parte Masham, 2 USPQ2d 1647 (1987)).

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. Claims 10-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Geist (6,757,827 B1) in view of Schmeidler et al. (6,763,370 B1) and further in view of Bisbee et al (6,367,013 B1).

As per claims 10-15 Geist discloses the determination of a digital signature verification error (see abstract; see fig.2-3 and associated text; col. 2, lines 44-62) and the generation of a digital signature verification map (see col.4, lines 45-67; col.5-col.6, line 38; fig.1-3) but do not explicitly disclose association of the digital signature with corresponding public key (generating digital signature using public key). However Schmeidler et al. (6,763,370 B1) disclose association of the digital signature with corresponding public key (generating digital signature using public key) see col.26, lines 55-59). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to utilize Schmeidler's public key digital signature algorithm in Geist's method, apparatus and storage medium's signature verification method steps

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and means in order to provide security to protect the value of the content and prevents unauthorized use and copying thereof (see Schmeidler co1.2, lines 21-23). Geist in view of Schmeidler et al do not disclose received message header identifier association with public key, digital signature entity and the mapping.

However Bisbee et al (6,367,013 B1) disclose header identifier association with public key, digital signature entity and the mapping (see fig.1a, 23A4a and 5a and associated texts). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to utilize Bisbee et al's digital signature chaining in Geist's method, apparatus and storage medium signature verification method steps and means in view of Schmeidler's public key digital signature algorithm in order to re-validate e-original object a current time stamp and digital signature and current authentication certificate.

As per claim 10 and 12 in addition to the teachings applied above, Geist discloses the verification of a digital signature associated with received message information (see fig. 2-3 and associated text).

As per claims 14 in addition to the teachings applied above, Geist discloses that the message header identifier includes at least one of data representing a sender's email address, telephone number, and unit identifier (see fig.1-3 and associated text).

9. Claims 38 and 45 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Geist (6,757,827 B1) in view of Schmeidler et al. (6,763,370 B1) and further in view

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of Bisbee et al (6,367,013 B1) as applied to claim 10 above, and further in view of Cooper et al (US006052442A).

As per claim 38, Geist in view of Schmeidler and further in view of Bisbee discloses the determination of a digital signature verification error (see as applied to claim 10 above) and the generation of a digital signature verification map (see as applied to claim 10 above). Geist also discloses the storage, receipt, and digital signature verification map update of at least one acceptable message header identifier, which becomes a map entry (see as applied above). Chan et al additionally discloses the verification of a digital signature associated with received message information (see as applied above). Geist in view of Schmeidler in view of Bisbee fails to expressly disclose the generation of a trusted alias map and the display of at least one subject alias. However, Cooper et al discloses these features (see the directory "display" and "mnemonic tag" in Cooper et al--Page 9, first column, second and sixth paragraphs and column 10, first paragraph). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method of Geist in view of Schmeidler by generating a trusted alias map relating to corresponding mnemonic aliases of Cooper and by displaying these aliases in place of the same URLs and sender email addresses. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do so in order to facilitate the identification of Geist's message sources in view of Schmeidler.

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As per claim 45, the use of e-mail address that corresponds to an entity is well known in the art, therefore proper certificate of an entity association with an e-mail is also obvious. The claim also shows an intended use (A recitation directed to the manner in which a claimed apparatus is intended to be used does not distinguish the claimed apparatus from the prior art if prior art has the capability to do so perform (See MPEP 2114 and Ex Parte Masham, 2 USPQ2d 1647 (1987))).

***Allowable Subject Matter***

10. Claims 1-7, 9, 17-26, 28-35, 37, 40-44 and 46-48 allowed.

***Conclusion***

11. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Aubrey H. Wyszynski whose telephone number is (571)272-8155. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday, and alternate Friday's.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kambiz Zand can be reached on 5712723811. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

AHW

  
KAMBIZ ZAND  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER